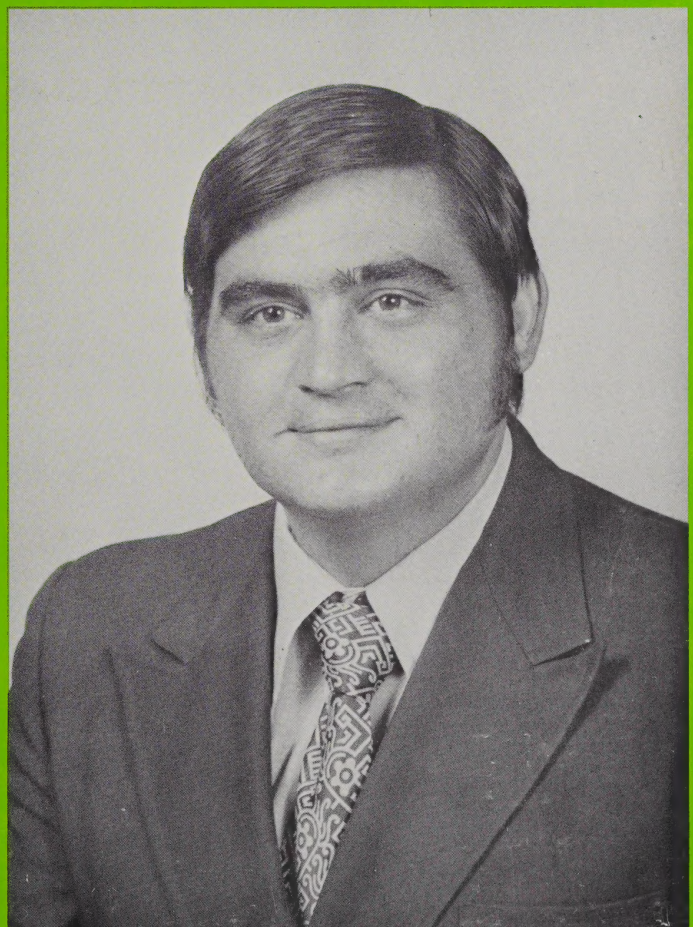
CABLE NEWS
MARCH 26, 1973

→ BT
P.14 Bob Cooper

the wip

THOMAS ATHANS . . . Cerro Wire and Cable



the pulse

A NEW VIEW OF CHAIRMANSHIP

Frank Thompson will probably say: "Why that dumb shithead, I've been saying that for 142 years," but it *is* new to me and it makes sense. Frank feels that we ought to take the "honor" out of the NCTA chair and put whomever we name chairman to work. Pointing to the successful "reign" of Fred Stevenson, he feels that the chairman must be prepared to spend a minimum of one day a week at headquarters in Washington, D. C. This sure makes sense right now when we have a president who has hardly gotten his feet wet. In other words, the guy who runs for chairman should be willing to spend a lot of time, and this amounts to money, on the job and not everyone can do this. Of course, John Gwin could and did do Trojan duty because Cox was big enough to be able to afford this contribution to the industry. The NCTA board should question candidates at length on this subject. Along this line, this editor gets the feeling that Bud Hostetter's interest in the chair is 99 per cent personal and 1 per cent industry. The ideal formula would be the opposite . . . 99 per cent industry and 1 per cent personal. I also wonder if Gene Schneider, if he would even take the job, wouldn't have a big plus in that he is an old timer. He knows the NCTA, the strength and weaknesses of staff members, what should be done, and has the necessary experience to make a good, active chairman. If he would take it on those terms.

OLDEST MALE CHAUVINIST?

Oklahoma may have the oldest male chauvinist in existence in, of all places, "South Geasy," a wide spot in the road near the Arkansas/Oklahoma line. Bearpaw Vann, 98 years old and a fullblood Cherokee is my kind of man. An adamant bachelor, he disdains automobiles, conversation, and women (I haven't had much luck with this trio either!). He use to walk a mile into town every day to nurse a soft drink at the general store, and then a damn car nearly ran him down and he slipped down a steep embankment and had to lay there for hours before anyone found him. So now he stays with his niece most of the time sitting by a wood-burning stove, idly spitting at an empty coffee can, empty because he rarely hits it with his "chawing" tobacco. Bearpaw is not fond of small talk. When asked questions, he usually replies, "raaah" or "Harrumph" which doesn't mean much of anything in Cherokee or English. Press him and he will get up and walk off into the woods until you leave. The longest talk he gave last year was about women: "Huumpp. I never fool with women. Women too stink." (Bearpaw is a little ripe himself; so the broads he has been chasing must be something else!)

On politics, he said, "I'm a Republican and you can't change me." When pressed for more, he said, "I talk too much already." And to emphasize his point, he shuffled off into the woods. At 98, he still plows with a two-horse team and chops logs for his stove. His niece says he likes the Republicans because when they are in they ignore him completely. The Democrats keep trying to help him and he just wants to be left alone. Bearpaw, you are the man of any year in my book.

LET'S MAKE A DEAL

By: The Observer

"And now ladies and gentlemen . . . the new star of LET'S MAKE A DEAL . . . PHIL 'give away the store' SPANIELS" (loud applause and whistling from the studio audience.)

"Thank you very much Tom Lackey . . . It's just great having all you municipal officials in the audience. Your my kind of folks and I know we're going to have great fun and a terrific show."

The camera cut from the beaming face of the MC and panned the studio audience, who obliged by giggling and waving to the folks in TV land. This was the lead in shot for a 30 second black and white spot (even though the program was in color) promoting CATV featuring a dancing Abel Cable singing a clever jingle about "More To See On Cable TV."

"Ok folks," said the polished MC right on cue. "Today's the day where we go into the studio audience to make some fantastic deals . . . Who are you sir?"

"Gee whiz Phil, I never thought I'd be on TV . . . uh, oh yeh . . . heh, heh, heh . . . Elden T. Cornpone, town manager of Pidgeon's Roost, Alabama, ay yo' service."

"Well its great to have you on the show Elden," said the polished MC. "Now as you know today's subject is cable TV which is an absolute gold mine for the cities . . . Am I right audience?" The audience responded with cheers and the appropriate applause.

"Now Elden if you can answer the question of the day, I will give you $50,000 for the library fund in your town."

"Terrific!" said the overall clad city official who quit scratching as the big TV eye zeroed in on him . . . "I been studying on this cable thing and we wants it in Pidgeon Roost . . . all three hundred souls would subscribe."

"Gee thats just fab Elden, baby . . . Now are you ready for the question of the day . . . which of the following services can cable TV provide today?: (1) Electronic delivery of mail, (2) Market to home shopping by satellite, (3) First run movies for 25 cents or, (4) Underground, bidirectional service for $1.95 per month . . . and your answer is?"

"All four!" shouted Elden gleefully "I seen all that in them CATV bids."

"Your absolutely correct," screamed the star trying to be heard over the wild applause of the enthusiastic city officials. "Now would you like to make a deal and take what's in our gold-plated treasure chest, or will you take the $50,000 for the library fund?"

"Take the chest," hollered the crowd. The city officials eyes shifted back and forth nervously. "I'll go for the gold," he bubbled.

"Tell Mr. Cornpone what he's won Tom!"

Congratulations Mr. Cornpone, you have won — (appropriate pause) . . . A CATV franchise for your city which offers all of those benefits mentioned in the question of the day (gasps and ecstatic applause) . . . not only that, but the producer of this show, Shaft Communications, wants to donate that $50,000 to your library as a bonus (howls of glee).

"Well that's about all the time we have today . . . Don't forget to tune in tomorrow, same time, same station . . . when we will make some unbelievable deals.

This is Phil "give away the store" Spaniels, saying "God Bless, and watch those wooden nickels."

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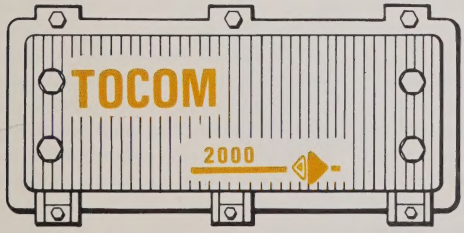

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Senator Kennedy voices opinions of cable TV

Kennedy feels that the cable industry should stop talking and start providing some of the added services that cable television has promised.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Ma.) has advised cable operators seeking favorable legislation to show the value of their services to the public, and to avoid "inflexibility" on copyright and anti-siphoning proposals.

Kennedy spoke at the second in a series of NCTA legislative conferences in Washington. The conferences are designed to improve cable contacts on Capitol Hill.

The Massachusetts Senator said copyright revision legislation covering cable liability "will soon be introduced" and added: "Surely one of your objectives when you meet . . . with your elected representatives is to make something happen in this area without undue delay."

Kennedy is a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, parent committee of the Copyrights Subcommittee headed by Sen. John L. McClellan (D-Ar.). McClellan is expected to introduce, possibly this week, a bill containing the same cable provisions he had proposed in the last Congress, but the cable section will then be revised in committee.

As a member of the Judiciary Committee, Kennedy said, "I will have the opportunity to participate directly in the development of this legislation. Those of us charged with decision-making will be guided above all else by the extent to which you can demonstrate the value of the services you will be rendering the public.

"Thus your industry in large part can by its own actions play a major role in the shaping of its future."

One thing Kennedy said he anticipated was that the cable industry "will want to take a hard line before Congress and the FCC on copyright liability on these points, however, can only prolong and accent two criticisms of your industry: that you want something for nothing, and that you want to sell to the public something that it is now getting free. Your opponents are saying these things, and saying them persuasively."

Kennedy continued, cable proponents "seem on occasion to be selling government decision-makers a philosophy of 'let us expand now, and we will provide service later.' I believe, however, that you will find that your willingness to provide more services to the public *now* will result in governmental responses that will make cable a good investment and allow it to expand even faster.

"It seems to me that the time is now to turn some of cable's billion dollar investment from stringing more wire to the development of enriched programming and broader consumer services. To say that there is no money in this approach may prove to be a short-sighted attitude and eventually a major contribution to the industry's own undoing.

"For, between the chicken of growth and the egg of service, Congress and the public want to see evidence that the American people will in fact be best served by public policy decisions fostering cable's growth."

Kennedy indicated concern in his speech about effects of taking conventional TV fare from broadcasting to cable TV. Broadcasting "provides free programming of almost universal reach – something cable cannot do in the foreseeable future," he said, adding: "It is not my belief that the public will accept lightly the prospect of having to pay in the future for what it is now getting free."

However, he concluded: "With confidence in the ability and willingness of cable television to realize its potential, and without any lessening of support for free and independent broadcasting, we can commit ourselves to a national policy supporting as rapid and universal development of CATV as possible.

"We can move towards coordinating Federal programs to support demonstration uses of cable for government purposes, including education, health, environmental protection and the like. We can even consider government-supported research for translating technological potential into actual public benefits, and government underwriting of financing of systems in marketplaces where private development would be impractical and uneconomical."

Criticism arises over access channel

"A Hint of Scandal Focuses Attention on Cable TV," a New York Times headline said last week, seeming to promise more wickedness from Fun City.

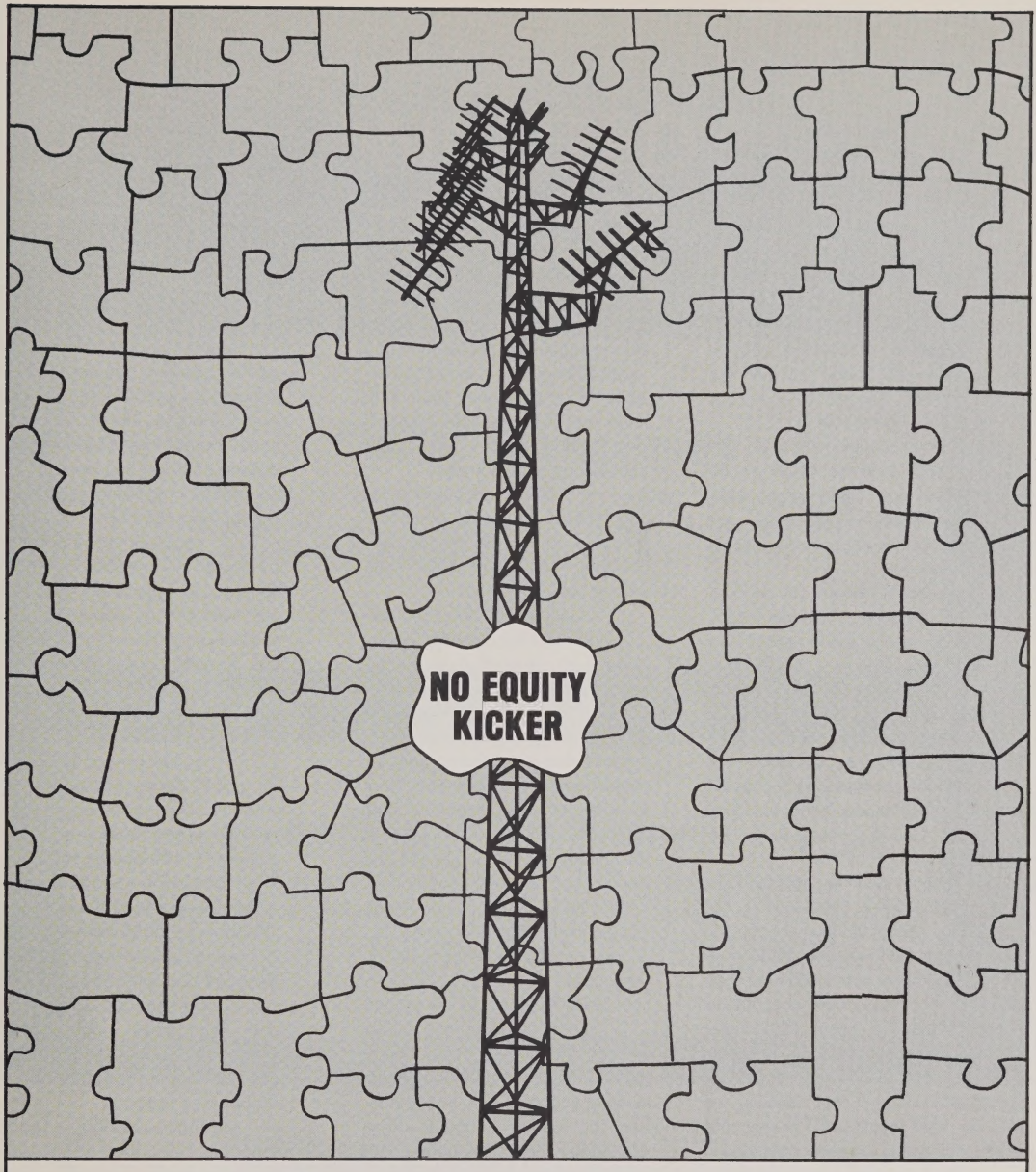
The story was about the nudity and transvesitism sometimes accompanying a show on Sterling Manhattan's public-access channel, and the upset experienced by the chairman of Time, Inc., majority owner of Sterling, when he turned one Sunday night to Channel C.

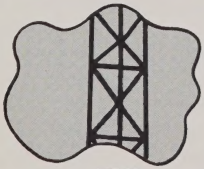
Sterling, with total operating losses of $13 million and a steadily rising annual deficit, cited FCC requirements for making public-access channels available to all comers without censorship of program content. Although cable operators can watch for libel, obscenity, and lottery, the question inevitably arises: How, in view of the long and complex disputes on these issues in courts and legislatures, can a cable system operator determine in advance if a program is obscene, libelous, or offers a lottery?

Sterling has been taking the half-inch tape productions of a filmmaker named Anton Perich and showing them in its latest public-access slot – 11 p.m. TelePrompTer formerly turned down the same man's shows but now carries them selectively – when TPT deems them not objectionable.

"As is so often the case," Times reporter Tom Buckley wrote, "it was the hint of scandal that focused a certain amount of attention on cable television and in particular on its public-access channels, which had been presenting, virtually unnoticed, neighborhood talkfests, story hours, university workshop performances and the like since July,

Continued to page 8 . . .





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Continued from page 6 . . .

1971."

For present, public-access programming seems to remain largely a matter of experimentation. A look at the FCC rules would seem to indicate that almost anything legal not only goes, but must go. But try telling that to the board chairman.

FCC hearing set for Pennsylvania telco

A telephone company's plan to provide lease-back service to cable systems in Hanover, Pa., will have to go to a hearing, the FCC has ruled.

The Commission said a joint-use agreement between telcos in the United system and cable systems using United pole space rasie "serious and substantial" questions about compliance with FCC policies.

United Telephone Co. of Pennsylvania already serves Penn-Mar CATV, which originally was partly owned by a United affiliate. However, a competing cable firm, Radio Hanover, which is also licensee of radio stations in Hanover and York, opposed the application for lease-back service, contending that it had been refused pole-attachment rights by United.

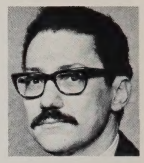
Radio Hanover has an anti-trust suit against United pending in Federal court.

United filed its Section 214 application in 1969, but in 1971 the Commission informed the telco that its rules require Section 214 applications to show that proposed cable customers were given the option of pole-attachment or conduit rights at reasonable charges, and without "undue" restrictions on use of channels. United then amended its application, saying it had changed the policy in 1969 to offer the pole-attachment option under joint-use agreement.

The Commission questioned this kind of agreement. It designated the application for hearing on whether a real option was available and whether pole charges were reasonable and use restrictions not "undue."

The Commission specified that any grant of the application would still be conditioned on the outcome of Radio Hanover's anti-trust suit against the telco.

An eagle-eyed view of the cable industry



By George Eagle

The FCC looks about ready to make a decision on cable in the San Diego market, and signs point to a freeing up of the ties that bind cable TV there. Cable development in the area has been frozen since 1968, when the Commission stopped any further expansion by systems that wanted to carry Los Angeles signals. That left some parts of the city with those signals, but not other parts.

Now the Commission is reported to be leaning towards a go-ahead for the 18 systems that are looking for certificates of compliance in the market.

Although the Commission's 1972 cable rules might have seemed on paper to permit a go-ahead for those systems that met the test, the San Diego dispute had been such a touchy and long-standing one that it was looked on as a special situation – and so the freeze in effect stayed on there. The thing that may have turned it around for the Commission was a broadcasting transaction. San Diego station KCST had fought all the way against cable growth, claiming that it was a struggling independent U that would be ruined if cable were free to expand through the market.

However, Storer Broadcasting Co. (also a cable owner) bought the station for $12 million from Bass Brothers Enterprises, and the ABC-TV network affiliation in the market, previously with XETV in Tijuana, Mexico, was acquired by KCST.

With that kind of strength – Storer ownership and a network affiliation – the station probably won't find such sympathetic ears in Washington if it continues to plead economic impact to keep cable down.

Sen. John L. McClellan's Copyrights Subcommittee definitely will hold hearings, though of limited scope, on copyright liability of cable TV after he has reintroduced his copyright revision bill. The Senator considers much of the cable-copyright ground already covered by previous hearings on such legislation, but he feels that, in the absence of agreement among industry parties, the record on a couple of outstanding issues could still be filled out a bit.

These are the schedule of fees cable systems should pay for copyrighted programs they carry, and whether to fit carriage of blacked-out sports events into the law. Probable timing of the hearings is later this spring.

– – – – – – – –

A scatter-gun objection by a TV station in Tulare, Ca., seeks to shoot down all the prospecitve cable systems around it on grounds that the station is new, independent and needs to make more money. Station KMPH opposes applications by three cable firms for systems in numerous communities and other portions of Kings, Tulare and Fresno counties. The station cites the familiar old argument, which has clearly lost stature as a factor at the FCC in recent years, of economic impact.

However, KMPH points out it is a "new, local independent television station for the San Joaquin Valley" and needs "audience increases, not decreases, if it is to attain viability and develop the base to support the commencement of local public affairs and new programming." It says not all the proposed systems plan to carry its signal.

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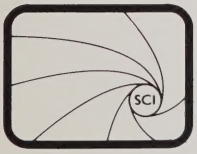

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Cable TV resource center set up for minorities

The Booker T. Washington Foundation has signed a one-year contract for $300,000 to establish a cable-communications resource center for minorities. The award from the Office of Minority Business Enterprise, U. S. Department of Commerce was announced by Berkeley G. Burrell, president of the Foundation.

The center will be a national information clearinghouse for Black, Spanish-speaking, Indians, and other minorities in the field of cable TV. It will develop engineering, economic, marketing, financial and legal data, analyses, and reports that precisely define the scope and character of economic and business opportunities for minorities in the cable TV industry. These reports will be disseminated to economic development organizations and other institutions that encourage and promote the economic growth and welfare of minority communities.

CRC will also undertake policy-oriented research projects and planning and feasibility studies for federal, state and local governments, private organizations, and community development agencies. These studies will provide policy-makers and funding agencies with quantitative and qualitative data regarding minority participation in all aspects of cable system planning, development, ownership and operation.

Suffolk offers special IRS show to taxpayers

Conscientious but frustrated Suffolk County taxpayers have a friend in Suffolk Cablevision. Each week, the firm's own station, TV-6, airs a new show, "IRS-1040," aimed at helping local residents solve their tax filing problems. The hour-long show is carried every Monday at 9 p.m. through the April 17 tax filing deadline.

Three representatives from the Smithtown IRS office, Jim Cohen, Dave Berjstein and Cyril Berzkorowajny will be on hand along with "IRS-1040" host, Stu Harris, to discuss changes in the tax law, problems commonly faced by taxpayers and a wide range of other topics.

Most of each show will be devoted to answering phoned-in viewers' questions.

It is with a sombre and heavy heart that we announce the death of John J. Morrissey, Jr.

As most of you know, John was one of the founders of this Association, one of its consistent supporters, and one of its most active, reliable, and responsible members. He was always ready and willing to do his part – and more. Whenever called upon, he quickly and diligently responded.

John also was instrumental in the formation of the Rocky Mountain Cable TV Association and served as one of its early presidents. His diligence undoubtedly helped these two organizations to survive their formative years. And, who can say how much time, effort, and support he donated to the entire industry through his contributions to the NCTA, individual systems, and person?

John has been a good friend and true. I count him as one of the finest persons I have known. I know that each of you will join me in a moment of prayer to his memory and for his family during his funeral this Friday, March 16, 1973.

Respectfully,
Sherrill Dunn, President
Colorado Community TV Assn.

HEARINGS NCTA President David Foster testifies before House Judiciary subcommittee on newsmen's shield privilege, March 14. Stuart Feldstein, NCTA general counsel, is on Foster's right.

RECEPTION Shown at the reception for Southern region delegation and Congressional staff are, (l-r) David Foster, NCTA, Rex Bradley, TeleCable Corp., Robert Huston, editor of *Cable News* and Bill Betts, Cable-Vision Co., Inc., Maysville, Ky.

MURPHY'S LAW NUMBER ONE: In any field of scientific endeavor, anything that can go wrong, will go wrong.

We've never been late on a cable delivery. And we never will be again.

Our delivery record *has* been almost good enough to say "never."

But that wasn't good enough for us.

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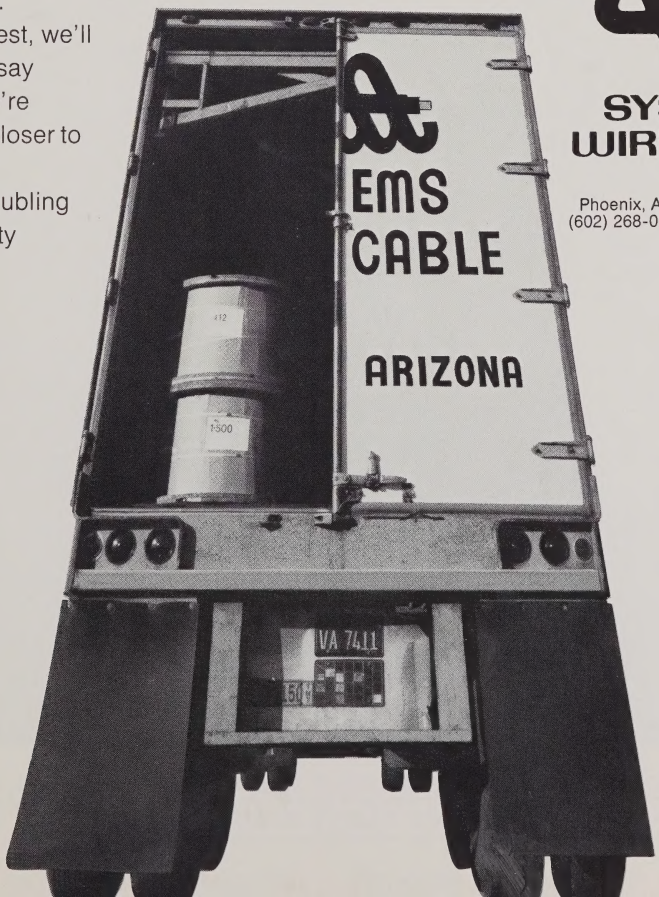
Think about it just before you place your next cable order.



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OH, MY GOODNESS! MY HUSBAND HAS BEEN SICK AND IN BED SO LONG NOW AND I GUESS I FORGOT TO TAKE CARE OF SOME OF OUR BILLS.
SIR, I THINK THE DOCTOR WILL LET HIM GO BACK TO WORK TOMORROW, AND I'LL COME INTO YOUR OFFICE THIS FRIDAY, FOR SURE, AND PAY OUR BILL, SO PLEASE DON'T TURN OFF OUR CABLE.
YOU CAN RELAX, DEARIE. THEY FELL FOR IT AGAIN.
3-16

Ideas are solicited for the Ajax Cable Co. and $5 will be paid for each one used. For a 4½" x 14½" copy of this cartoon, send 50 cents to Ron Hathcock, P. O. Box 4312, Yuma, Arizona, 85364.

Foster speaks out on gov't ownership of cable

The chief spokesman for the cable television industry has warned the Federal Communications Bar Association against the "rising tide of interest in and pressure toward municipal ownership" of cable TV systems.

In a luncheon address before the FCBA, NCTA President David Foster urged the communications bar to guard against "turning over to government the development and control of the most versatile, flexible, accessible and potentially powerful communications medium that has been envisioned in man's history."

Foster outlined NCTA's successful effort to defeat a referendum on municipal ownership of cable in Columbia, Mo., as the "beginning of a fight that will go on and on across the country." He cautioned the FCBA members against deceiving themselves into believing municipal ownership is a problem only in previously uncabled communities. Three factors argue against municipal cable TV ownership, Foster said. The taxing authority, credit, and bond rating of a community should not be committed to a high-risk venture such as cable; municipal or county government cannot generate the creative innovations to bring cable to its full promise and potential, and third, "communications is not strictly a commodity nor is it a service. Rather, it is a resource and right for all of our citizens. It is a resource and right which I want to use and I suspect all of you do as well."

Foster concluded by indicating that he intends to urge Congress to make it "unlawful for any governmental body to own either directly or indirectly not only a cable system, but also a newspaper, a radio station, or a television broadcasting station."

General Instrument forms credit company

General Instrument Corporation has established a subsidiary, General Instrument Credit Corporation, to make financing available to customers for cable television construction projects.

A group of major banks led by Chase Manhattan Bank has given GICC a line of credit that will enable it to finance more than $25 million in cable turnkey contracts, and the amount available can increase as General Instrument's business grows, chairman and chief executive officer Moses Shapiro said.

Under the turnkey concept a contractor such as General Instrument's Jerrold Corporation subsidiary designs and constructs an entire cable TV system, turning it over to the system operator when it is completed.

"The establishment of GICC," Mr. Shapiro said, "will allow us to extend credit to our turnkey customers on favorable terms. The rapid growth of cable TV will be further enhanced by making financing of this kind more readily available. Our cable television business, already growing very strongly, should receive additional impetus as a result of the creation of General Instrument Credit Corporation."

the staff

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MURPHY'S LAW NUMBER TWO: Nature always sides with the hidden flaw.

People ask us why Burnup & Sims is the most respected name in CATV system installations. Meet Rudy McJunkins, Superintendent.

West Palm Beach Atlanta Denver

the problem

FCC Inquiry Into Small Systems/CEAS

Continued from last week . . .

It is further noted that:

76.605(a)(3): In reality applies only to those systems which separate the visual and aural carriers (at baseband); and then re-apply the baseband audio and visual signals to *separately* generated local oscillators. By CADCO interpretation of this paragraph, however, it appears that *all* cable-carried channels, *regardless* of whether they have been altered by the cable operator in any way which might affect the 4.500 MHz visual and aural carrier separation specified, must be frequency measured by the CATV operator.

CADCO respectfully suggests that any class of CATV system be relieved from this measurement, *if* the CATV operator does nothing to the receive signal which might alter the separation originally transmitted by the television broadcast station.

It is additionally noted that:

76.605(a)(6): Specifies that the rms voltage ratio between the visual carrier (level) and the aural carrier (level) at the subscriber termination shall be not less than 13 db nor more than 17 db.

CADCO would like to propose that, in class "A" systems where cable channels are not immediately adjacent (i.e. cable system channels are 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11 and 13) and the specification be re-written to read:

"76.605(a)(6): The rms voltage of the aural carrier shall be maintained between 13 and 17 decibels below the associated visual carrier level; except in class "A" CATV systems where there is no immediate upper-adjacent channel, wherein the rms voltage of the aural carrier shall be maintained between 6 and 17 decibels below the associated visual carrier level."

The Commission has specified that the aural carrier levels be kept at rms values of 13-17 db below the associated visual carrier levels primarily because of poor television set selectivity; wherein lower adjacent channel sound traps are poor or improperly aligned and do an inferior job of keeping the lower adjacent aural out of the desired channel video.

In a class "A" system where the system operator has few or no adjacent channels on his cable, this requirement merely creates additional problems for the CATV system and offers the very real possibility that the customer will receive inferior quality color reception.

Sound carrier control in "small" CATV systems typically results from the installation of a tuneable series trap. Such a trap is difficult to tune, and unstable with changes in ambient temperature. The smaller the cable system, the lower the level of technical competency (usually), and the more likely that mis-adjustment of this sound trap will result.

The end result, often, in a smaller system is poorly tuned sound traps which degrade color reception for the subscribers.

Accordingly, in class "A" systems where non-adjacent channel carriage exists, we propose that this section be modified as previously outlined.

It is still further noted that:

76.605(a)(7): refers to low frequency distortion products on the visual carriers of the system. This probably is most often associated with poor power supply techniques in the CATV system. The measurement called for by applying the "5% hum modulation maximum" criteria of 76.605(a)(7) is not a difficult one, nor does it require especially expensive test equipment.

However, CADCO feels that the same objective can be met for class "A" and "B" systems without an actual measurement; if the Commission will accept a qualitative inspection of the pictures on the system.

CADCO proposes that the section be left as written, but be modified with the following addition:

"Class 'A' and 'B' systems shall be required to maintain customer service lines in such a manner that no visible *system-introduced him or transient modulation is present on receivers connected to the CATV system."*

It is additionally noted that:

76.605(a)(9): requires that a CATV system first picking up its off-the-air signal within the predicted Grade B contour of a television broadcast station maintain a minimum signal to noise ratio of 36 db; and visual carrier level to undesired (properly offset) interference ratio of 36 db.

76.605(a)(10): specifies that a CATV system maintain a 46 db rms ratio between the desired channel visual carrier and *any* non-desired, non-properly-offset co-channel signals for IM products).

CADCO believes that same channel (but not properly offset) translators are potentially troublesome to the CATV operator.

Under the present rules in paragraphs 76.605(a)(9) and 76.605(a)(10), translators by their non-proper-offset cri-

teria are considered to be applicable under 76.605(a)(10), as discrete carriers.

Translator rules pretty well determine that their actual operating frequency will be within or very close to the *range* of offsets permitted (+10 kHz to – 10 kHz); although they are not required (nor assigned) *specific* offset frequencies.

The Commission accepts a 36 db rms ratio for proper offsets; CADCO would like to suggest that any translator station that is producing co-channel interference to the CATV system be treated as if it were a standard TV transmitter operating on proper offset; and that the 36 db rms ratio apply. We are suggesting this because to the television viewer, a 36 db down proper offset carrier and a 36 db down +3 kHz or -6.5 kHz translator offset carrier look pretty much the same.

This type of problem is especially likely in systems that fall into the proposed class "A" category; serving small, isolated pockets or communities with CATV signals.

Accordingly, we would like to propose that:

76.605(a)(9) be re-written to read: ". . . and visual signal level to any undesired co-channel television signal operating on proper offset, *or any undesired co-channel television signal originating at any licensed television translator station* shall be not less than 36 decibels;" (Added section is in italics)

76.601(b): specifies that the CATV operator shall maintain . . . records which "specify for each subscriber the minimum visual signal level (the system) maintains on each class I cable television channel, under normal operating conditions . . ."

On the other hand, section 76.605(a)(4) specifies that the *minimum* visual signal level (on any channel) shall be not less than 1 millivolt (0 dbmv across 75 ohms).

76.601(b) *suggests* that the Commission is requesting a *separate written entry* (or file card) for every subscriber location on the system, with a channel-by-channel visual carrier level reading recorded. This interpretation was substantiated by a representative of the Commission speaking before the attendees at the California Community Television Association meeting held at Anaheim, California in November 1972.

Additionally, section 76.605(a)(5) states that the *maximum* signal level on *any* channel shall not be more than 12 db higher than the minimum signal level present.

Therefore, in a *practical situation*, if the lowest channel delivered is 0 dbmv, and the highest channel delivered is limited to +12 dbmv (76.605(a)(5), CADCO fails to see the need for elaborate, time and space consuming individual records for every channel and every customer drop location in a system.

We feel that such record keeping is counter-productive, especially in a small system, where manpower is very limited.

Therefore, CADCO would like to suggest the following alternatives:

1. *That all systems, of any size classification, be required to keep accurate and up to date records for every plant-system active unit (i.e. amplifier) showing the (a) recommended output level for that amplifier at that location, and, (b) the actual output level for all class I channels being passed by that amplifier at that location; and,*

2. *That all systems, of any classification, be required to keep accurate and up to date records of the actual measured signal levels present on all class I channels, at the last (final) subscriber drop on every terminated leg of the CATV system.*

DEFINING THE SMALL SYSTEM – AND SEEKING SPECIAL RELIEF

Up to this point CADCO has dealt with the basic suggested definition of small systems, by population base, and the area of technical measurements which affect small (and to some extent large) systems.

Those sections of 76.605 which have not been dealt with here are, in the CADCO view, not restrictive to the "small" system operator.

Of equal importance, we feel, is the matter of seeking special operating relief for the (proposed) class A and class B systems.

The goal of the Commission is to propagate CATV systems in as many areas and towns of the United States as possible. Yet, by notice of this inquiry, the Commission is (rightfully) concerned that for many smaller municipalities, CATV will be very slow in coming; under the present restrictions of Part 76.

CADCO would like to recite a few real-life examples that we are familiar with; to attempt to make our point.

1. *IOWA PARK, TEXAS – located within 15 miles of the coordinate points for the Wichita Falls/Lawton market (number 111); population 5,796 people.*

Under the present rules, Iowa Park could have three network services (all of which already exist), one educational outlet (none presently exists but a UHF satellite for channel 13, Dallas is under construction) and one independent station.

Iowa Park is sufficiently far from the Wichita Falls metro region that it would probably not be inter-connected to any future system that would be installed in Wichita Falls proper.

And with only the possibility of a single independent to offer, such a system would not be built under the present rules.

2. *GUTHRIE, OKLAHOMA – located within 30 miles of the coordinate points for the Oklahoma City market (number 39); population 9,575 people.*

Under the present rules, Guthrie could have three network service (all of which already exist), one educational outlet (which presently exists), and three independent outlets (none of which presently exist).

Guthrie is sufficiently far from the Oklahoma City metro region that it would probably never be inter-connected to any future system that would be installed in Oklahoma City proper.

Because three independent stations could be brought into Guthrie, it would appear that it would be a good market for traditional cable.

However, because of the two-way system requirements, plus public, educational and local government access requirements; this system could not be built profitably today.

Continued next week . . .

To sit by in silence, when they should protest, makes cowards of men.

Bob Huston

If the board doesn't believe everything in your report... change it when you present it to the members!

David Foster took a step in the right direction when he presented a report titled "*Toward a More Perfect Union*" to the NCTA board at the New Orleans meeting in February.

Under the heading "*What Does The President of NCTA Do?,*" Mr. Foster came up with some rather clever claims, some of which were painfully true . . . others left room for doubt. For example, the claim that he had hired 11 professional and administrative additions to the staff causes pain to this writer. Just because the NCTA headquarters are based in Washington, D. C., it doesn't mean that we have to copy Big Brother and hire two or three people for every one job opening. Egad, 11 more mouths to feed . . . and rooms to house them . . . where will this one end?

But then maybe he was counting Chuck Lipsen. Mr. Foster did explain to the industry leaders attending the first legislative conference that one of the first things he realized after becoming president of the Association was that we were extremely weak on Capitol Hill. So he looked around and found the best man available in Mr. Lipsen and was mighty proud and pleased with his choice. I agree with everything you said, David, except *you* did not hire Chuck Lipsen. Bruce Lovett and his committee made that choice. All of which may be a minute point . . . except it casts credibility on other claims to fame you make.

For example, I doubt that you or anyone else could sit down and ramble off all those figures to your dear little old aunt back in good old Ioway. On the tip of your tongue you could tell aunty that you had traveled 38,000 miles (not 37,000 or 39,000) . . . held 26 staff meetings (not 25 or 27) . . . had six private and two semi-private meetings with the FCC Chairman and 15 meetings with other Commissioners . . . and on and on. You do ramble, Mr. Foster . . . and in this case, all of it may be true . . . but if so, why not present the whole set of figures as fact and skip the homey chat with an aunt bullshit?

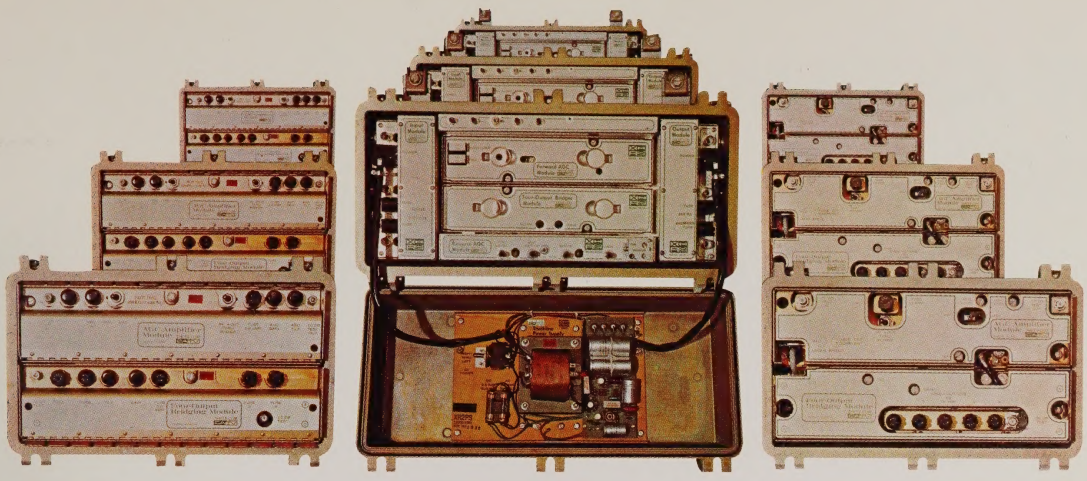
Where is the room for doubt besides the Chuck Lipsen part and the credibility of the conversation with the aunt? Look under the heading "*Positive Feelings About The First 9 Months.*"

Let's start with the first point: "Staff morale and work output at heightened level." I seriously doubt that anyone could be "positive," even in "feelings" if you are honest with yourself, about morale being at a "heightened level" in such a short period of time.

And the second point: "Improved image of NCTA." This statement was originally presented to the NCTA board of directors as: "Improved image of NCTA at FCC." Why was it shortened, Mr. Foster? Did a member of the board doubt your ability to measure such a nebulous thing? Indeed, did a member of your staff whose morale is not so "heightened" under your leadership also say that he could honestly see much improvement in the image of the NCTA at the FCC?

Are you beginning to get the point, Mr. Foster? Let's face it . . . you haven't come close to convincing this editor . . . as well as more than one member of the board and your staff . . . that you have done nearly as much as you claim to have done in your "*Toward a More Perfect Union*" report.

Talk about Tom Whitehead warping the hell out of the truth, as *you* did, *not* this writer . . . boy, I don't believe I would challenge anyone else.



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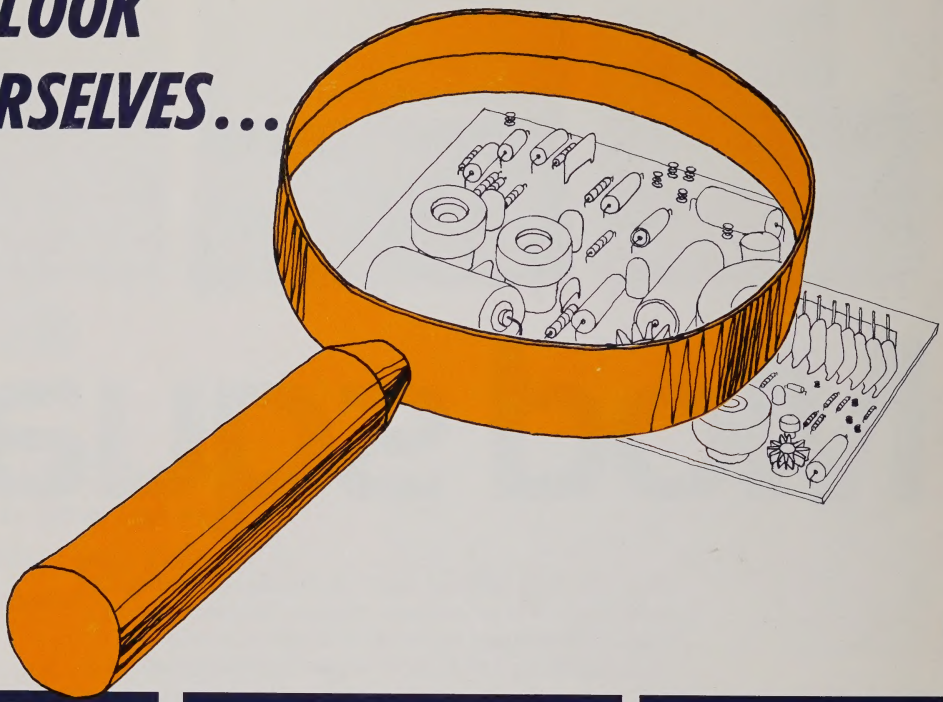

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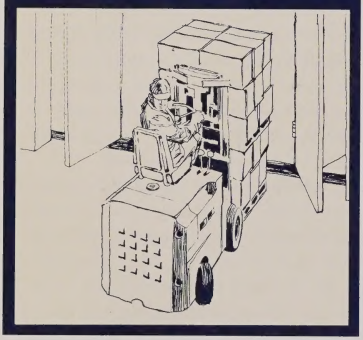

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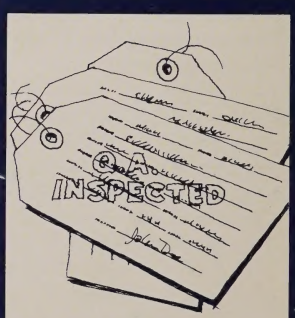

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